

## CLAIMS:

1. A waterborne coating composition comprising:
  - a) about 0 to 70 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of a titanium dioxide slurry;
  - 5 b) about 0 to 75 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of at least one extender pigment slurry;
  - c) about 1 to 20 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of a thickener slurry; and
  - d) about 1 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of a glycol slurry; and
  - e) at least one latex binder.
2. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the viscosity of said coating composition is substantially the same as the viscosity of any one of the slurries.
3. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the viscosity of said waterborne coating is in the range of about 70-125 Krebs units.
4. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the thickener slurry comprises at least one thickener selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, an alkali soluble emulsions, a hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and a hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions
- 20 5. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the at least one extender pigment slurry can be selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate slurry, silica slurry, and kaolin clay slurry.
6. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the pH of said thickener slurry is in the range of between 5.5 to 6.5.
- 25 7. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the titanium dioxide slurry comprises:

- a) about 50 to 90 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of titanium dioxide pigment
- b) about 0.5 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a glycol; and
- c) about 0.1 to 5.0 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of at least one thickener; and

wherein the viscosity of said titanium dioxide slurry is in the range of about 70-125 Krebs units.

8. The coating composition of claim 7, wherein the thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.
9. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the calcium carbonate slurry comprises
- a) about 50 to 75 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a calcium carbonate pigment;
- b) about 0.5 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a glycol; and
- c) about 0.1 to 5.0 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of at least one thickener; and
- wherein the viscosity of said calcium carbonate slurry is in the range of about 70-125 Krebs units.
10. The coating composition of claim 9, wherein the thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.
11. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the silica slurry comprises
- d) about 20 to 50 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a silica pigment;
- e) about 0.5 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a glycol; and
- f) about 0.1 to 5.0 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of at least one thickener; and

wherein the viscosity of said silica slurry is in the range of about 70-125 Krebs units.

12. The coating composition of claim 11, wherein the thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.

- 5 13. The coating composition of claim 1, wherein the kaolin clay slurry comprises
- a) about 50 to 75 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a kaolin clay pigment;
  - b) about 0.5 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a glycol; and
  - c) about 0.1 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of at least one thickener selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.
14. The coating composition of claim 13, wherein the thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.
15. A method for the preparation of a waterborne coating composition comprising:
- (a) providing a plurality of liquid blend raw materials; and
  - (b) admixing the liquid blend raw materials to produce the waterborne coating product.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein said liquid blend raw materials can be selected from the group consisting of latex binders, titanium dioxide slurries, extender pigment slurries, thickeners, thickener slurries, glycol slurries, and mixtures thereof.
17. The method of claim 15, wherein the waterborne coating product has a predetermined viscosity.
18. The method of claim 15, wherein the waterborne coating product has substantially the same viscosity as the liquid blend slurries.
- 25 19. The method of claim 15, wherein the viscosity of said waterborne coating is in the range of about

70-125 Krebs units.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein the extender pigment slurries can be selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate slurry, silica slurry, and kaolin clay slurry, or mixtures thereof.

21. The method of claim 16, wherein the thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.

22. The method of claim 15, wherein each liquid blend slurry has substantially the same viscosity.

23. A pigment slurry comprising:

- a) about 20 to 90 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a pigment;
- b) about 0.5 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a glycol;  
and
- c) about 0.1 to 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of at least one thickener; and

wherein the Stormer viscosity of said pigment slurry is in the range of about 70-125

Krebs units.

24. The pigment slurry of claim 23, wherein the thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.

25. The pigment slurry of claim 23, wherein the pigment can be selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, calcium carbonate, silica, and kaolin clay, or mixtures thereof.

26. The pigment slurry of claim 23, wherein the pigment is about 50 to 70 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of titanium dioxide.

27. The pigment slurry of claim 23, wherein the pigment is about 50 to 75 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of calcium carbonate.

28. The pigment slurry of claim 23, wherein the pigment is about 20 to 50 percent by weight, based

on the total weight of the slurry, of silica.

29. The pigment slurry of claim 23, wherein the pigment is about 50 to 75 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of kaolin clay.

30. A glycol slurry comprising:

- a) about 5 to 50 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of a glycol; and
- b) about 1 and 50 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of at least one thickener; and

wherein the viscosity of said glycol slurry is in the range of about 70-125 Krebs units.

31. The glycol slurry of claim 30, wherein the at least one thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.

32. A method for the preparation of an aqueous pigment slurry which comprises the steps of:

- a) dispersing a pigment with water to form an aqueous pigment slurry;
- b) admixing the dispersed aqueous pigment slurry with a glycol;
- c) adding to the admixture at least one thickener; and
- d) dispersing the mixture to form an aqueous pigment slurry.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the pigment can be selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, calcium carbonate, silica, kaolin clay, or mixtures thereof.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein the thickener can be selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, hydroxyethylcellulose, alkali soluble emulsions, hydrophobic ethoxylated urethane resins, and hydrophobically-modified alkali soluble emulsions.

35. The method of claim 32, wherein the pigment slurry comprises between about 20 to 75% by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of the pigment.

36. The method of claim 32, wherein the pigment slurry comprises between about 0.5 to 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of the glycol.

37. The method of claim 32, wherein the pigment slurry comprises between about 0.1 to 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the slurry, of the at least one thickener.